AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-50 (Canceled)

51.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

presenting an original content including at least one of video or audio content originally produced primarily for purposes other than language learning;

providing assistance to a user to facilitate language learning;

observing an activity of the user;

inferring the extent of knowledge of a language of the user from the observation; and

automatically adjusting the form of assistance to the user based on the inferring.

52.   (Original) The method of Claim 51 further comprising:

delivering the original content with an additional content via a same digital medium;

wherein the additional content includes a text database of the words present within the original content; and

wherein the additional content further includes information about the words.

53.   (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

combining an additional content from a separate digital medium with the original content;

wherein the additional content includes a text database of the words present within the original content; and

wherein the additional content further includes information about the words.

54. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

playing the original content associated with a plurality of sequentially adjacent words wherein the length and starting point of the sequence of words is responsive to a user input.

55. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

playing a plurality of sequentially adjacent words wherein a speed <u>a player plays the plurality of sequentially adjacent words</u> ~~of playback~~ is adjusted responsive to a user input.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55 further comprising:

adjusting a pitch of audible playback in relation to the speed of playback to improve intelligibility of an audible word.

57. (Original) The method of claim 55 further comprising:

adjusting a time-spacing between audible words in the playback in relation to the speed of playback to improve recognition of the audible words.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57 wherein the individual audible words between the time spaces have their original natural pitch and speech rate preserved.

59. (Original) The method of 51 further comprising:

automatically pausing the content during playback at a point and for a duration based on the extent of the knowledge.

60. (Original) The method of 59, further comprising:

automatically offering an additional content during a pause based on the extent

of the knowledge.

61. (Original) The method of 51, further comprising:

prompting the user to indicate if they desire more or less assistance.

62. (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:

providing additional content that includes an index of words spoken in a

soundtrack of the original content;

adjusting the speed of playback of the original content responsive to a user input;

adjusting at least one of pitch and time-spacing of the words to improve at least

one of intelligibility and recognition; and

maintaining a correlation of words spoken to specific points in the content by

reference to the index.

63. (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:

providing additional content that includes an index of words spoken in the

original content;

providing a library of audible pronunciations for a plurality of the words in the

index; and

playing the pronunciations in response to a user input.

64. (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

analyzing at least one of a user input, a context of the user input, a database of the original content, a database of an additional content, and a database of user information to identify information of interest in relation to a segment of the original content;

presenting the information of interest prior to playing the segment.

65.   (Original) The method of claim 51 further comprising:

analyzing at least one of a user input, a context of the user input, a database of the original content, a database of an additional content, and a database of user information to identify information of interest in relation to a segment of the original content; and

prompting the user for an additional input, the additional input to cause a further modification of the playback.

66.   (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:

providing a link to other content accessible across a distributed network.

67.   (Original) The method of claim 51, further comprising:

controlling access to at least one of content and functions based upon rights granted to the user.

68.   (Original) The method of claim 67, wherein rights are granted based on payments received.

69-88 (Canceled)

89.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium, having stored therein a set of instructions, which when executed cause a machine to perform a set of operations comprising:

presenting an original content including at least one of video or audio content originally produced primarily for purposes other than language learning;

providing assistance to a user to facilitate language learning;

observing an activity of the user;

inferring the extent of knowledge of a language of the user <u>from the observation</u>; and

automatically adjusting the form of assistance to the user <u>based on the inferring</u>.

90-94 (Canceled)